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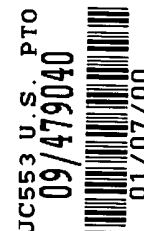
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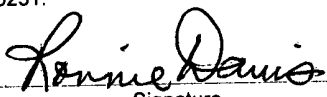
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January 7, 2000

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<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING</p> <p>NUMBER EL392859935US</p> <p>DATE OF DEPOSIT January 7, 2000</p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.</p> <p align="center"> Signature</p>
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BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RE: *U.S. Patent Application Entitled: "Polyhydroxyalkanoate Biosynthesis Associated Proteins and Coding Region in Bacillus Megaterium" by Maura C. Cannon et al.*

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a 112-page patent specification including 23 claims and an abstract. Also included are Figures 1-10 on 17 sheets. The specification and drawings constitute the application of The University of Massachusetts for the captioned invention.

Also transmitted herewith is a diskette containing the computer-readable form of those sequences in the specification, a Statement as Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), and a separate paper copy of the sequence listing.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventors' Declaration and Assignment, and a Power of Attorney. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicants request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicants request that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILED DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicants' representative.

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January 7, 2000

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Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Please forward any reply to this communication directly to our Houston office for docketing purposes. The mailing address and the physical address for courier packages is 750 Bering Drive, Houston, Texas, 77057-2198, and the Houston fax number is 713.787.1440.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Buntel, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 44,573

eg

Encls.

002070-04062460

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January 7, 2000

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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FEE RECORD SHEET

01/24/2000 DBUTLER 00000063 09479040

01 FC:101	690.00	OP
02 FC:102	1560.00	OP
03 FC:103	54.00	OP

PTO-1556
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